

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves like this, the public gets instead more of what's good for the corporate bottom line and less of what is needed for a strong democracy, which depends on an independent press. This is also a blatant attempt to force Sinclair's views on how this election should be decided on the public, no matter how biased the medium. No time is being provided for a PRO-Kerry presentation, to allow viewers to form their own opinion.

Sinclair's actions demonstrate exactly why media ownership rules need to be strengthened, not weakened. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve much more than a returned postcard. Thank you.